

Be Gentle 381

Chapter 381 She Did Not Expect That Bianca Would...

Leia treated Bianca, the designer, as her assistant. Bianca was tasked to fill Leia's water bottle and help her with her lines. Leia even asked her to get coffee from the cafe nearby.

She did not give Bianca any chance to rest.

Whenever she gave her orders, she did not speak haughtily. Instead, she would gently "beg" and use "Please" to ask for anything, which meant that the other people did not have the chance to criticize her.

The employees of the advertising department thought that it was rare for a famous celebrity to behave so humbly. They thought that Bianca should be happy working for her.

Normal people would rarely, if ever, get the chance to be a celebrity's assistant.

Bianca knew that Leia was purposely making her life difficult, but she tried not to be angry.

She was in no position to cross Leia, and she did not want Leia to complain to her father Jack, which might cause trouble for Luke.

When she came back with Leia's coffee, she stood next to the director and watched the next take.

had stopped the shoot countless times. Bianca could not help

was not gloating. Instead, Leia's performance was thoroughly

her best to flaunt her femininity and forgot that the subject of the shoot should be

more dissatisfied Josef was, the worse Leia's performance became. It had become a vicious

Scandinavian male model who was supposed to be Leia's partner was commendable, but he was also getting tired and grumpy from the repeated failed takes caused

many years of shooting movies and commercials and his encounter with countless famous actors and models, he had never seen an actress as wooden as Leia. She was like a puppet with a beautiful exterior but

shoot should have been wrapped in one morning, but by the end of the day, they were not close to done. Josef was an internationally renowned director whose time was precious. He was extremely frustrated with Leia's

he heard someone giggling next to him, he furiously turned his head to look at the source of the

However, when Josef saw Bianca's giggling face, he *was shocked!*

The woman was dressed in conservative office wear. That was a striking contrast with her clear eyes and docile facial **features**.

She looked so young and tender but at the same time eye-catchingly seductive. She could be the object of indulgent fantasies.

Josef could not see Bianca's name tag clearly.

He turned to ask the advertising department manager in German. "Who is that girl? Did your company hire her as a model? Her character is very suitable for the theme of this campaign. How about we use her as the model for the commercial?"

The advertising manager glanced at Bianca, noticed from her nametag that she was from the design department, and replied to Josef, "Mr. Josef, that young lady is an employee from the design department. Ms. Norman asked her to be her temporary assistant. The model of the commercial should be Ms. Leia Norman. It's not very appropriate to replace her abruptly, **right?**"

While Bianca was in college, she took several semesters of German. In fact, she was quite fluent in the *language*.

Soon, she realized that Josef and the advertising manager were talking about her. She walked in front of the director, slightly confused, and said, "Nice to meet you, Mr. Josef. I am Bianca Rayne from the design department. Ms. Norman's assistant could not make it today, and I'm here to help **her temporarily.**"

accent was spot-on. If one did not know her, they might even think that she

appeared in Josefs blue eyes. He repeated Bianca's name several times and smiled. "Nice to meet you, Ms. Rayne. I think that your character suits the Queen series perfumes very well. Are you interested in trying

was a rather arrogant man, and he was not afraid to offend Leia. He was not going to flatter the celebrity but instead tried to keep his distance

manager was shocked when Josef asked Bianca

that Josef set very high standards for his actors. Leia might not be an international celebrity, but she should have the experience to match

was not out of the ordinary for amateurs to star in commercials, but how would Bianca Rayne, someone who had never appeared in front of the camera before, be able to satisfy

was at a loss when she heard Josefs invitation, but she instantly declined it without giving it a thought. "Mr. Josef, I am a designer. I don't have any screen experience, much less star in commercials. If I become the model for the commercial, the progress for the shoot will definitely be delayed. Thank you for the

waved at Bianca. His harsh gaze was filled with anticipation and confidence. "No, I think that you're the perfect choice! How about this, Ms. Rayne, go and get changed, and we'll do a test shoot. If it doesn't turn out as expected, then well forget all about it. Is that OK with you? Suzanne, take her to the make-up

Chapter 382 Loving Bianca Meant A Lifetime of Bliss

Bianca's height was not remarkable, but she had a lean figure. The pure white tube top skirt looked dominating yet elegant on her.

The pair of crystal high heels added four inches to her height.

"Very good!" Josef exclaimed and gestured a thumbs-up at Bianca.

He noticed that Bianca seemed flustered. He patted Bianca's shoulder and said, "Acting can be very easy or very difficult, Ms. Rayne. It's not just about how you look; it's also about how you feel. You just have to put your soul into it. Don't worry, it's just a short commercial. Just relax and treat it as though you're on vacation."

Bianca was slightly comforted by Josefs words.

It was her first time appearing in front of the camera.

She did not have any experience at all. In fact, she felt as though she was forced to do so...

Bianca wanted Luke's commercial to be a success. That would be a major contributing factor to the product's sales.

No matter how badly Leia might have performed, she was nonetheless a public face and a recognizable celebrity. Meanwhile... she was nobody at all.

She was extremely reluctant to step onto the set.

crew quickly returned to their

and the assistant directors pointed their cameras at Bianca at the same time and her face was gradually brought into

Josef, I, I can't..." Bianca sat awkwardly on the

She was feeling helpless.

Just listen to my direction and pay attention to my hand," Josef

no other choice, she leaned onto the prop that was covered in

camera, Bianca's fair and delicate face was enhanced by the

smile, and head movement might seem flustered, but there was an animated spirit in

opened wide, and he shouted excitedly, "That's it! Just like that! Be more seductive, act like you're

bright lights, Bianca was clueless at

After a while, she seemed to have understood what the director wanted. She smiled charmingly at the camera, which charmed the production crew and brightened up the **studio**...

Leia was waiting to see Bianca make a fool out of **herself**.

As the shoot progressed, her expression became more and more unpleasant, and her fists were clenched **tightly**.

'That woman Bianca usually dresses so conservatively. Why does she look like a different person after a change of clothes?' She cursed under her breath.

'Why can she put up such a great performance even though she doesn't have any screen experience?'

On the set, Bianca's fair legs were *half-exposed*.

She sat lazily on the prop, spraying Queen perfume on herself. She closed her eyes and took a whiff.

The cameras captured Bianca's flawless face from all *angles*.

As she spoke the lines while leaning on the prop, she seemed to have transformed into a lazy cat. Her figure was alluring, and her gaze was charming, presenting all the qualities of *Queen perfume*.

Meanwhile, Luke had entered the studio.

crew was busy shooting. No one noticed that he had come

several employees noticed him and wanted to greet him, Luke placed his finger on

noticed the man, her eyes lit up in delight, and she went forward to greet him, "Mr.

nodded at her as a gesture of courtesy and ignored her

observed Bianca on the set. There was a hint of gentle indulgence in his noble

were many women in this world that were more beautiful than Bianca, but she was the only one who captivated

had seldom seen Bianca like that. His woman's charming smile was like original sin. Falling in love with her meant a lifetime of bliss, and he could not stop himself from thinking about

awkward next to him, watching him stare at the woman he

began to contort, and her hatred toward

my god, that young lady's performance is better than some professional actresses..." Josef said to his assistant director. He was thoroughly

Chapter 383 A Double Loss!

Luke frowned when he imagined Bianca appearing on the silver screen for the other men to see and admire. He rejected the idea without giving it a second thought. "There's no need, Mr. Josef. She's not suited for the entertainment industry."

However, Josef insisted. "The young lady has great potential. I can guarantee that she'll be famous around the world in just one movie!"

Luke believed that Josef had the ability.

The director had created more stars in Hollywood than any other director.

However, Luke did not want Bianca to enter the chaotic entertainment industry. He expressed his opinion once more, "Mr. Josef, Bianca's interest is in architectural design. She wants to be a famous designer and not a celebrity." "She can be a designer while she works on her acting career. It's just a change in titles. Ms. Rayne can put her acting first and do design on the side. There's no conflict between the two."

Seeing that he could not convince Luke, Josef turned his head and asked for Bianca's opinion, "Are you interested in venturing into the entertainment industry, Ms. Rayne?"

Bianca smiled gently and rejected Josef's offer as well.

"I appreciate your offer, Mr. Josef, but my passion is in design." She made her stand clear.

Josef shook his head helplessly. He was quite disappointed with Bianca's insistence.

The advertising manager shot a surprised glance at Bianca.

people wanted the famous director to notice them, but they never had the

Josefs guidance, one would easily make it big in the

that woman named Bianca Rayne had rejected the offer so directly. Did she know what she

might be disappointed, but he gave Bianca his name card. "If at any time you find yourself interested again, feel free to contact me." "Thank you." Bianca took the name card and expressed her

did not say anything, though his stern expression indicated that he would not want Bianca to enter the entertainment

belonged to him alone. No other man was worthy to covet

halfway done with my presentation, Mr. Crawford. I should go back to

remembered that she was not done with her presentation yet. She wanted to get back to her office as soon as

scraped her nose bridge with the tip of his finger. "Mm. Don't overwork yourself. Well go home

said "go home" instead of "go back," which warmed

She did not know since when she had become an important part of Luke's life. It felt good to be able to go to work and off work with **him**.

After Bianca left, Luke turned to look at **Leia**.

Leia's charming face was lethargically pale and carried an undetectable hint of jealousy.

She should have been the model for the perfume commercial, but somehow, Bianca had replaced her.

She wanted to use the opportunity to get close to Josef. Being a Hollywood star was her *lifelong dream*.

She also wanted to get closer to Luke and lower the defenses of his heart. Unfortunately for her, all her plans went **awry**.

Leia had never felt so defeated in *her life*.

"**Ms.** Norman, I apologize for the situation earlier. Our company has breached the contract, and we will compensate three times the termination fee. The fault is entirely on me, and not on the director; he has done nothing wrong except for being too responsible for his job. What do you think?" Luke said **sincerely**.

Leia wavered as she looked at his **handsome face**.

She might be extremely resentful, but she did not show any dissatisfaction in front of Luke and Josef. Instead, she **smiled magnanimously**.

fine, Mr. Crawford. I was indeed not in my element today. I will go back and reflect on my faults, and I hope that I'll have the chance to work with

the one who had insisted on replacing the model, but Luke did not blame him for that. Instead, he shifted all the fault

admiration for the

noded apologetically at Luke, then turned to give Leia some words of encouragement. "Ms. Norman, you have a beautiful appearance, but your range of expression restricts you to pure characters. You still need a lot of practice before you can portray other types. Given your good-natured temper, I believe that you'll be an outstanding actress in

might be smiling, but her smile was slightly

the director had not replaced her with Bianca, she would still be the model for Queen perfume. Her resentment toward Josef was

she did not show any dissatisfaction on her face at all. Instead, she said politely, "Thank you for your illumination, Mr. Josef. I will do my best to hone my acting

smiled but did not say anything further. He exchanged a few more words with Luke before

to leave, but Leia immediately stopped him. "Mr.

a cigarette. The firelight danced between the man's slender

Chapter 384 Bianca Is the True Ms. Norman!

Luke had a charm that could steal a woman's soul, but he had always kept a polite distance from Leia.

Leia did not understand. She had given her all to him, but why did he treat her so coldly?

"Mr. Crawford...' Leia pressed her lips together and said coyly.

Her thoughts went back to that night when they were entangled on the bed

She kneaded her hands tightly and asked gently, "That night, at my Grandpa's birthday party, have you forgotten what happened between us?"

Luke turned to glance at her blushing cheeks coldly. "What could have possibly happened? I was together with Bianca that night. I don't know what might have given you the idea that I like you, but I'm sorry to tell you that the only woman I love is Bianca. That was true in the past, and that is true now. Right, when you go home, please let your mother know that no one can try to meddle in my relationships. Tell her not to cause Bianca any trouble; come to look for me if there's anything. I'll be going off now, Ms. Norman, and I apologize for not being able to entertain you."

Leia watched as Luke's tall and well-built body disappeared from view and gently laughed self-deprecatingly.

She was not in a private space. She had to force herself to be calm.

Luke said that he was together with Bianca the whole time during her grandfather's birthday party...

should not have to resort to lies. Did that mean that the man who had made out in bed with her that night was not Luke?

stricken by panic when she thought of

was another possibility. Someone who took the drug would be in a daze and forget about what they did. Could Luke have forgotten about what he did that

that it was quite

she nonetheless felt uneasy about the

seemed to be out of

have to get this

hurriedly left the studio, the employees from the advertising department started to

the rumors say that Leia Norman was dating our boss? It was said that they were even planning for marriage. That doesn't seem like the case!" A female employee

"Yes, anyone can see that our boss has an eye for Bianca Rayne from the design department. Don't tell me that it's all Leia's wishful thinking!" Another female employee laughed and joined in **the conversation.**

"Who knows? I don't really understand what's going on with our boss. Didn't we see Ms. Norman come to the company to personally deliver chicken soup to our boss? She even thinks that she is our boss's girlfriend. It seems that things are turning out the other way. The boss treats her more like a stranger than his girlfriend..." "Hey, do you think that our boss really likes that Bianca Rayne from the design department? I don't think she's anyone special, other than her pretty face. Do you think that she'll become Mrs. Crawford?" "Ahem..." The advertising manager came over and swept a stern gaze over the employees. "Don't you have anything to do other than gossip about Mr. Crawford's personal life? Do you still want your job **here?**"

The employees instantly shut up, glanced at the manager, dispersed from the studio, and returned to *their posts.*

Leia returned to her company dejectedly. Just when she arrived at the office, she received a call from the private *detective.*

"**Hello?**" "Are you free now, Ms. Norman? I found some classified information, and I want to give it to you now." The private detective sounded happy.

The volume on Leia's phone was quite loud. Several other actors from the same company turned to look at her.

Her heart skipped a beat. She lowered the volume and quickly went to a secluded corner. "I'm at the company now. Come here and I'll meet you in the newly-opened restaurant near **the company.**"

Half an hour later, the bearded private detective found Leia in a private room. He handed her a thick stack of documents.

Leia browsed through the documents, and her hands started to tremble. "Is ... is this all true? You're not lying to me?" "Ms. Norman, I might seem sloppy and careless, but I've always been honest. You've paid me a lot of money to do this, so why would I want to deceive you with fake information? If the information is fake, it'll be exposed sooner or later, and my reputation will be ruined!" The detective said as he crossed his legs and chewed on tobacco.

read every word on the documents. The more she read, the more panicked and desperate she became. The thick documents were wet and crumpled from the sweat on

'Bianca Rayne!

my adoptive parents' birth daughter be

that their birth daughter was still alive, but how could that person be

results of the investigation showed that Bianca Rayne, the woman she hated and envied the most, the subject of her ridicule, was actually Jack Norman and Queenie Zeigler's birth

Bianca was the true Ms. Norman!

she had now was stolen from

made her feel as though she had swallowed a dead fly. It was disgusting, but she could not spit it

the report, twenty-five years ago, Jack Norman rose through the political ranks with his own abilities. He refused to conspire with certain corrupt politicians, and they had framed him by implicating him in a smuggling case. He was brought away by federal agents for

Chapter 385 Get Bianca's Hair To Do A DNA Test!

After the private detective left, Leia remained on her seat, staring at the cup of coffee that had long gone cold.

She pinched her arm and felt the sharp pain. She turned to look at the stack of documents on the table again and finally believed that what happened earlier was real!

She had lived as a Norman for so long, and she had treated herself as the one and only Ms. Norman. She had never expected that the true Ms. Norman was still alive and might return to replace her one day.

As she thought of Luke, the man she loved, she closed her eyes in agony.

She had loved the man for too long. If only the man showed the least bit of tenderness to her, she would be satisfied.

Bianca Rayne!

Leia cackled hideously.

Luke single-mindedly loved that woman with a humble background. If Bianca were truly Jack and Queenie's birth daughter and the truth was revealed one day, Queenie would divert all the love and attention she gave Leia to Bianca.

By then, Leia would be abandoned!

When she thought of that, Leia laughed coldly. 'Ha, I will not allow this to happen!'

Norman family house.

not see her mother when she got home. She remembered that her mother would usually be practicing yoga at this time, so she went to the

Indeed, Queenie was practicing yoga.

was almost fifty years old, but her skin remained fair and delicate. It was as though time did not leave a mark on her

was wearing white yoga clothes that concealed her

impressed by how her mother could perform difficult yoga

did not know her mother's true age, she would have thought that the elegant and noble Queenie was only thirty years

Leia called out gently and smiled sweetly. "You seem younger by the day. Everyone else's mothers become older and older, but you're

Queenie heard Leia's voice, her gently closed eyes opened slightly. "You know how to make me happy. Are you tired from

gathered the loose strands of hair next to her ear and said with a smile, "Work wasn't tiring at all. Mom. I'll be starring in a medieval fantasy movie soon..." "My daughter is outstanding. I've always wanted to star in a movie, but I won't ever get the chance. I'm happy that you're fulfilling my dreams," Queenie sighed

Leia spread out a mat next to Queenie, and they practiced yoga together.

She saw the expectant gaze in her mother's eyes and pressed her lips. Something flashed across her gentle face. "Unfortunately, I haven't received many positive reviews other than my first movie. I've let **you down**

Queenie playfully pinched her daughter's cheek. "Silly girl, I've never had any expectations about your roles. You can continue to act for as long as you like. When you don't feel like acting anymore, you can come back and help me with my business. If you're not into business, you can just stay at home, and I'll pamper you." "You're so nice to me, Mom. Will you be so nice to me forever?" Leia was moved by Queenie's *words*.

Queenie said gently, "Of course. I only have one daughter. If I'm not nice to you, who should I be nice *to*?"

At that moment, Leia wanted to ask, "If you know that your birth daughter is still alive, will you still love and pamper **me unconditionally?**"

Leia knew better than to ask that question. She swallowed the words that were on the tip of her tongue and buried them deep within *her*.

She got off the yoga mat, took out a handkerchief from her pocket, and gently wiped Queenie's cheeks. "You must be thirsty after practicing yoga for so long, Mom. I'll get you a cup of floral tea. Just wait here." "Mm," Queenie replied.

She was becoming more and more fond of her adoptive daughter.

While Queenie was not paying attention, Leia grabbed two loose strands of Queenie's hair on the yoga mat, carefully wrapped them in the handkerchief, and put it in her pocket.

A complicated expression flashed past her face as she did **so**.

would find some way to get Bianca's hair so that she could do a

found out that Queenie's birth daughter was really

shall not get any mercy from me!" Leia's face flashed

T Corporation.

Bianca finished her presentation, she sent it to Yanis's

packing up when she suddenly heard Sue

that Sue's face was pale. "Are you alright, Sue? Are you sick?" She asked out of

dry-heaving. I don't feel sick...

could finish her sentence, she felt another wave of nausea rushing up to

covered her mouth and rushed to the

Chapter 386 Mr. Crawford's Sudden Change In Demeanor!

"I'm not judging you, Sue, but it's just that your symptoms look very similar to what I went through when I was pregnant... I mean, a woman should be in charge of her own health. I think you should go to the hospital for a checkup."

Bianca knew how helpless a woman could be when they became pregnant before marriage.

Back then, she did not know that the father of the babies in her womb was Luke. She had thought that the father was some despicable old man, and that she would never forget the physical and mental torment she went through during her pregnancy.

Bianca's words seemed to have convinced Sue.

She rubbed her temples, trying to recall something. That night, she had gotten herself drunk at a bar and spent a wild night with a stranger. Her heart nearly stopped when she thought of that.

'That can't be. It's just one night. Why am I so unlucky?'

Sue tried to deceive herself that it was not the case. She felt as though her head was going to explode.

She felt another wave of nausea. "Bianca, can you help me get a pregnancy test strip from the pharmacy nearby?" She asked Bianca in panic, "Right, I don't want anyone else to know about this." "I understand, Sue. I'll keep it a secret for you. Just wait for me for a while.

I'll be back with the test strips soon."

It was the evening rush hour, and the T Corporation employees were streaming out of their offices.

was waiting in the elevator lobby. Bianca was in a hurry to buy the pregnancy test strips, so she went into the CEO's

would often bring her into his personal elevator. Bianca forgot that regular employees could only take

Bianca stepped out of the CEO's personal elevator and saw the other employees looking at her weirdly while whispering to each other, she realized that she had made a big

was not in the mood to be bothered with

She quickly ran toward the pharmacy.

especially the gossips, talked among themselves at the

that Bianca Rayne from the design department? I'm envious that the boss treats her differently. Look at her. She gets to ride the boss's personal elevator," Female Colleague

B nodded in agreement. However, there was a hint of jealousy in her gaze. "She doesn't look that remarkable, and she dresses so shabbily. I think I look better than her. I wonder why did the boss take a liking

B was from the PR department. She was famous in the company for her outstanding looks and tall

had admired Luke and wished that her love would be returned. Unfortunately for her, her wish never

She was naturally jealous when she saw that an unremarkable woman had gained Mr. *Crawford's* favor.

Female Colleague C glanced disdainfully at her. 'Tch. You always wear so seductively every day, as though you're selling your body. It'll be a miracle if the boss likes you!'

At the pharmacy near the company, rows of products were displayed on the racks.

Bianca quickly took two different products. One was a box of test strips, and the other was a **test stick**.

*She wanted to get a **double confirmation**.*

*Bianca knew how Sue must be feeling right now. The sudden realization that one was pregnant could cause panic and *helplessness*.*

After buying the items, Bianca went back to the company.

In a hurry, Bianca accidentally ran into someone, and the items in her hands fell on the floor and caught everyone's eye.

The T Corporation employees' accusatory gazes fell *on Bianca*.

Bianca rubbed her nose that was in pain. She did not notice who was the one she had knocked into and crouched on the floor to pick up the **items**.

Suddenly, someone grabbed her arm and picked her *up*.

Luke. "Uh, Mr. Crawford..." Bianca said awkwardly. She had always called him that in the narrowed his eyes and looked at the items in her hands. His lips faintly curled up in surprise. "Are you pregnant,

that Luke must have misunderstood her, but she had to keep the secret

a rule in the company that a pregnant employee could not be

be lethal for

tried to calm herself down. "N... No, my period has been late for a few days, so I'm trying to check if

landed on her tightly kneaded hands and smiled. "I remember that the last time you had your period was on the 8th. It's only less than half a month away. If you want to test, shouldn't you be waiting until the 8th of the

man's gentle smile was dazzling, and that had made Bianca blush even

could remember the date of her period. That way, she would not be able to lie to

buying this so that I can use it when the time comes," Bianca said

Chapter 387 The Wealthy and Merciless Luke Crawford!

Bianca handed the pregnancy tests to Sue. She waited outside the washroom worriedly instead of leaving.

Sue's condition did not look too good. Bianca did not want to leave her alone.

A few minutes later. Sue opened the washroom door.

Her hand that was holding the pregnancy stick was trembling. Her face was silent and ashen.

Bianca instantly saw the two red lines on the pregnancy stick...

Her eyes widened, and her emotions became a mess. "Sue..."

In the time Bianca was in the company, she had never heard that Sue had a boyfriend. 1

Sue had always prided herself on being single. She even said that she wanted to devote her life to her career and not marry for the rest of her life.

Why would she be pregnant suddenly?

Sue's mind was blank. She looked visibly panicked.

'What is this joke that fate is pulling on me? I only had a one-night stand with a man because I was drunk, and I hit the jackpot? Is there another woman in this world as unlucky as I am?' 1 "I'm really pregnant... I'm finished..." Sue laughed bitterly. Her usually cheerful face was fraught with depression.

the father, Sue?' Bianca hesitated before

gaze flashed with confusion. "The father... I was drunk that night, and I made out with a man. When I woke up the next morning, I ran away without looking at his face. I... I don't know who

never seen Sue that dejected

Sue was an intelligent, capable, and optimistic person who had never shown her panicked and

Sue out of concern. "You've made a mistake, but it's already happened. There's no point in regretting it. The most important thing now is deciding what to do with

gradually calmed down as she looked at Bianca's concerned expression. "I really don't know what I should do now. Give me some time

child in her womb had come at the wrong

not know who the father was. Moreover, it was a crucial juncture in

rule in T Corporation stated that no woman in her pregnancy or breastfeeding period could be

of the design department had inadvertently told her that her name was on the list of people to be
accidental arrival of the baby had disrupted

Sue could not accept it.

'TH respect whatever decision that you make, Sue. If you decide to abort the pregnancy, I'll go to the hospital with you. You'll have to think it through, though. The baby is innocent, and abortion is very harmful to a woman's **health...**"

Bianca did not really agree to Sue aborting the baby, perhaps because she knew how blissful it could be to be a *mother*.

"Mm, I'll think it through." Sue became even more disconcerted when she heard Bianca's comforting *words*.

She placed her hands on her abdomen. It was still flat, and no one could tell that she *was pregnant*.

She regretted getting herself drunk that night and regretted even more that she did not look at the man's **face**.

'What if the man is a terrible person? Would this child inherit those genes?' Sue thought **worriedly**.

Luke had a business dinner to attend. He left the company **with Jason**.

Meanwhile, Bianca remained in the office to have a heart-to-heart talk *with Sue*.

At about eight o'clock, Bianca received a phone call from Luke.

She went downstairs and into the parking *lot*.

Too many things happened that day: The location survey, the perfume commercial shoot, and Sue and Nina's incidents. Bianca felt that it had been a long day.

At the parking lot, Bianca saw Luke smoking while discussing something with **Jason**.

His expression was cold and harsh.

saw her walking toward him, his gaze became

not dazzlingly beautiful, but he had a unique impression of her. To Luke, Bianca was like a ripe and juicy peach. He wanted to take a bite and appreciate her

Jason noticed Bianca's arrival.

appearance was as warm as the sun that drove the winter's bitter cold

greeted Bianca and said, "Ms. Rayne, Mr. Crawford drank a little too much at the dinner earlier, and he shouldn't be driving. I have some other urgent business to attend to, and I can't send the two of you home. Can you drive? Or should I call Lowry and get him to pick you

handed the car keys to Bianca. "There's no need. Let Bianca

subconsciously glanced at Luke's brand new black Bugatti Veyron and saw her reflection in its impeccably polished surface. 'This car must be worth tens of millions!' She

had gotten her driving license several years ago, but she rarely took the wheel. Was she able to drive that

cigarette was flickering. He took a last drag and tossed the cigarette butt into a nearby trash

go home," he said to

tightened her grip on the car keys in her hand as she caught a whiff of alcohol in Luke's breath. "I'm not very skilled at driving. I rarely

Chapter 388 Bianca Asks For Luke's Help

At that time, it was still rush hour, and there were many vehicles on the road.

With Luke's encouragement, Bianca started the engine.

She drove cautiously, afraid of hitting another car, but she was even more afraid that others would bump into hers.

She did not notice that almost all the cars on the road kept a safe distance from her.

After all, that kind of luxury car was not something that everyone could afford. Even a small chip would cost them more than their car, so no one dared to bump into her unless they had a death wish.

Bianca managed to drive smoothly even though the roads were slightly congested.

She saw that Luke was not supervising her when she drove, and he closed his eyes as he rested.

That man was mature, attractive, successful, and was a prominent figure. It was not an exaggeration to say that he was eagerly sought after by all the women in A City.

She was really lucky to have such a perfect man.

Even so, when she thought about Nina, Bianca deliberated for a bit but eventually said, "Luke, I have something I like to ask for your help. I know I shouldn't trouble you too much, but I don't know what else I can do..."

that, Luke's handsome face turned to her. 'Don't worry. I'll never find anything you ask

not know how to go about telling

was a refined and mature man who got everything he wanted and was used to giving orders to others. They lived in two completely

was in front of her, he never acted loftily but was always very pampering. She did not know what he saw in

bit her lip lightly and briefly explained the situation. "It's about Nina. She got involved with me last time, and Pierre violated her. Unfortunately, she

Bianca saw that Luke was listening attentively, she continued but sounded more frustrated. "Nina is in a bad condition physically. The doctor said that if she had a miscarriage, she would most likely be infertile in the future. She wanted to keep the child, but Pierre forced her to abort the kid. The man is too cruel. Not only did he hurt Nina, but he also made her abort her baby... I... I want Pierre to get the punishment he deserves and get revenge for Nina! A scumbag like him should be brought

said and paused, just when there happened to be a traffic light at the intersection

on the brakes and turned to look

expression was unfathomable, and she could not tell what he was thinking. She only saw him pressing his temples with his hands and stopping once in a while. His silent actions made the air in the car

felt that the topic she brought up was quite

After pondering for a few moments, Bianca said, "I know that this is a difficult request, and I agree that I might have brought it up at the wrong time. After all, Pierre is Percy's younger brother, and you and Percy are good friends. But I really think that Pierre had hurt Nina too much. I feel guilty that Nina is miserable right now because of me. It's all my fault, and I am powerless to remedy the *issue*."

After Bianca's words fell, Luke still did not speak.

Her heart throbbed, and she thought that her words had put him in a difficult situation, so she lowered her head, dejected.

At that moment, the traffic light turned green, and horns blared *behind her*.

Bianca jumped up.

She suddenly released the brakes that she had been stepping on. The entire car jolted and accelerated forward at an extreme speed.

Bianca panicked a bit, and she instinctively wanted to step on the brakes. Unfortunately, she did not manage to control the steering wheel and the car slammed into a white BMW next to her!

"Ah!" Bianca yelled.

Her mind went blank, and her entire body fell into Luke's arms!

Bianca was so scared that she felt her soul leaving her body. Her heart was in her throat before she finally *calmed down*.

She might have gotten her driving license with flying colors, but it had been a long time since she last drove, and without the practice, she was not very comfortable in the driver's **seat**.

the sports car was not easy to maneuver. Careful as she might be, she ended up in an accident

so, the expected crash did not happen. Luke shielded her when the car was about to hit the BMW, and he turned the steering wheel forcefully to the

swerved around and hit the guardrail, narrowly avoiding

Bianca called out to him hoarsely, looking

handsome brows frowned slightly. Since both of them were wearing seat belts, there was no serious injury, but Bianca's delicate face was pale because

like a child who had made a mistake as she looked at Luke nervously. She wanted to say something to him, but the words were stuck in

OK? Say something!" Luke comforted the frightened Bianca by patting her head. When he looked at her, he saw that her face was as pale as a sheet of paper, and he knew that she was

asked again, "Are you scared? You're just like a little

breathed a sigh of relief and forced herself to stabilize her

clutched her heart that felt as if it was about to leap out of

Chapter 389 A Beautiful Night

Bianca felt extremely sorry that she nearly caused a car accident just now. She dared not continue driving in case she put their lives at risk again.

However, Luke drank and could not drive under the influence.

She took out her phone and used the ride-hailing app to find a driver.

Luke stared curiously at Bianca.

He got a little suspicious when he saw her entering her phone number on the app. "Can that find us a driver?"

After all, when Luke traveled, either he or the driver would be driving. He never needed to ride in a cab, nor had he ever seen a ride-hailing app before.

"Of course. It's very convenient. Let me show you how to use it. If you want to make an appointment for a driver, you have to enter your contact information, then do this..." Bianca grinned at Luke as she explained to him patiently.

Luke quietly listened to her sweet voice and looked at her with a gentle gaze.

In about ten minutes, a bespectacled male driver in his mid-thirties arrived.

The driver was very experienced. He brought Bianca and Luke to their destination safely in just a little over half an hour.

After entering the house, Bianca went to the bathroom to take a shower.

Luke watched the bathroom door close, and he frowned slightly. His sculpted face was fraught with pain.

off his coat and walked to the study while pressing on his

felt a stinging pain when he put a little pressure

up his sleeves and saw that there was a wound. Blood was oozing out of

a first-aid kit from the cabinet and sterilized the wound

he applied some topical painkiller on the wound and wrapped gauze around the

movements were natural as though he had dealt with such wounds hundreds

finished up, Luke quietly put the first-aid kit back in place and took a quick shower in the other bathroom. He changed into his pajamas, returned to the bedroom, and laid on the big

Crawford missed his great-grandchildren, and so Lanie and Rainie were brought back to Crawford

and Luke were left in the cavernous

leaned against the bed, picked up the financial newspaper on the shelf next to it, and browsed

minutes later, Bianca walked into the bedroom. Her long hair

she saw Luke was engrossed in reading the newspaper, she quietly approached him and threw herself into

Bianca bumped into Luke's wound on his arm, and he could not help but let out a groan.

Bianca heard his painful groan.

She quickly rolled up his pajama *sleeve*.

When she saw the blood-stained bandage on his arm, Bianca looked at him in shock. "You... you're injured? What happened? Why didn't you tell me you **were injured?**"

Luke rolled down his sleeves and said calmly, "It's nothing. It's just a superficial injury. Don't worry, I've already taken care *of it*."

Bianca remembered how he did not hesitate to shield her body at the moment of the crash. Something in the car must have caused that *wound*.

"Don't do something like that anymore. I can take care of myself. Don't you know that I'd feel worse when you're hurt instead of me..." She said **guiltily**.

Luke kissed her misty eyes. "You're my woman. It's my responsibility to *protect you*."

After speaking, Luke pulled Bianca into his chest and kissed her chattering mouth **forcefully**.

Bianca wanted to struggle and escape from it, but she was afraid that she would bump into his wound again, so she could only let him hug her.

When she listened to his steady and powerful heartbeat, she indulged in his **tender kiss...**

At some point, Bianca's clothes were taken off and the powerful male body pressed against the woman's delicate *body*.

they had done it many times and were very familiar with each other's bodies, Luke went straight

Bianca avoided his wound, she was still worried. "Your

his voice and sucked her earlobe lightly. "Relax, I'm

not have the strength to

at the blushing Bianca and whispered to her ear, "Don't worry about Nina. It'll be a little troublesome, but I'll help you since you asked

a little surprised but immediately understood what he was talking about. She responded to him with even more

air in the room was thick, and the temperature

It was a beautiful night.

The Tanner House.

already so late. Why don't you stay overnight at my house? I'll let your mother know that you'll be staying." Lacey said affectionately as she held

was quite satisfied with her young,

had a good family background and just came back from studying business administration abroad. Although she was arrogant and capricious, Lacey always felt that girls should be allowed to throw harmless tantrums once in

Chapter 390 The Less Likely He Could, The More He Wanted It!

As she spoke, Melissa's gaze went around the house, trying to find a trace of Xavier.

"Aunt Lacey, why hasn't Cousin Xavier come back yet?" Melissa asked.

Lacey sighed loudly. "Sigh. Tanner Corporation is currently in a severe financial crisis. Your cousin goes out early and returns late every day to save the dying company. There's no other way to it..." "Don't worry, Aunt Lacey. When I go back, I'll ask my brother and dad for financial resources. That should help Tanner Corp through its current difficulties." Melissa said, trying to please her.

Melissa might have studied business administration in college, but she only knew how to live the high life. Even her admission to the college was bought over with a lot of money. How would she know about the lies and deception that happened in business?

Her father and brother spoiled her, which made her think that if she went home and asked nicely, she would be able to persuade them to help finance Tanner Corporation.

"What a good girl. Anyone would be lucky to have you as his wife."

While the two were chatting, Xavier walked in, reeking of alcohol and hostility.

Xavier had a well-built body and a delicate face. Under the light, he looked all the more enchanting.

back, Xavier!" Melissa, who had been paying attention to any sounds coming from the door, saw Xavier and immediately went over to

saw Melissa, his expression instantly became gloom. "Why is she here,

not like his beautiful, naive, and conceited

of her worsened after the incident in Blue Honors when Melissa embarrassed him in front

very thirsty and ignored Melissa's admiring gaze. He picked up the glass on the coffee table, poured himself a glass of water, and drank it in

this how you speak to your cousin? She came all the way to see me, and this is how you treat

saw her son being indifferent to Melissa. With a look of dissatisfaction, she began to nag Xavier, "Have you been out drinking again? How many times do I have to tell you that your cousin just got back from abroad and you need to spend more time with her? Why won't you listen to me? Are you trying to

nagging riled Xavier. In a fit of rage, he kicked the coffee table in front of

teapot on the coffee table crashed and fell to the ground, making a mess in the

Lacey furrowed her eyebrows and scolded, "What are you doing, Xavier? Do you even care about your mother?" "Mom, I just want some peace and quiet! Stop bothering me. I'm very annoyed!" Xavier grabbed his head and sat on the sofa, looking very dejected.

There was an unspeakable suppressed anger in his voice.

He and Bianca have been divorced for some time, but Bianca's shadow had been lurking in **his mind**.

Numbing himself with work and alcohol did not help. He felt that the situation was **hopeless**.

The less likely he could get something, the more he wanted to *get it!*

Lacey sighed when she saw her son like that. While the caretaker cleaned up the mess, she continued scolding him, "Look at yourself. You've always been a bad-tempered bully since you were a kid. You'd throw tantrums whenever you feel like it. What kind of bad habit is that? If your father's around, the two of you would always end up fighting... If you have anything you want to say, don't keep it to yourself. You can talk to me, or you can speak about your feelings with Melissa. It's easier to communicate with people your age than with an old woman **like me...**"

Melissa also crouched in front of Xavier. She cautiously said, "Xavier, are you upset because of work? Your mom told me that Tanner Corporation is currently in a financial crisis, but don't worry, I..." "Please stop talking, OK?"

Xavier stood up irritably, put on the coat that he had just taken off, and his hoarse voice revealed a deep lethargy. "I have something to do. I'll be heading out. You should go to bed. Don't wait for me." "Where are you going? Didn't you just come back? I won't allow it! Are you going to hang out with those good-for-nothing friends of yours again?" Lacey **yelled**.

blocked him and said domineeringly, "Xavier, I'm staying at your house tonight. I won't allow you to go anywhere! You have to stay here and accompany

at her disdainfully and shoved her

fell onto the wide and soft couch beside her. She was not hurt, but the force of the shove made her

like that, Melissa heard the sound of the door slamming close and the rumble of the car sound outside starting

got up and gave chase but only saw the back of the car driving away. She was so angry that she threw herself into Lacey's arms and burst into

The next day.

Bianca was relieved when she noticed that Sue's complexion looked slightly

she thought of the project, her heart was caught in her

was that project stressful, but it was also very difficult. She wondered if the pregnant Sue would be capable of taking up the